

Background Memo on Colorado Springs Military Presence

QUICK LOOK

- Colorado Springs is home to five military installations, 38,500 uniformed military, 16,000 DOD civilians and 109,000 veterans.
- Colorado's Fifth Congressional District has the highest concentration of veterans of any Congressional District in the country, and is essentially tied for having the highest percentage of younger veterans.¹
- Almost 50% of the region's economy is tied to defense & aerospace, totaling around \$5B of economic impact. In 2017, this included \$2.7B in defense contracts (*Bloomberg Government*).

INSTALLATIONS

1. **Fort Carson** key units/missions:
 - 4th Infantry Division
 - 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team (BCT)
 - 2nd Infantry BCT
 - 3rd Armored BCT
 - 4th Combat Aviation Brigade
 - 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne)
 - 26,000 military personnel, 6,000 civilian employees, 4,200 contractors, and annual economic impact of \$2.2B.
2. **Peterson Air Force Base** (co-located with the Colorado Springs Airport) key units/missions:
 - NORAD/NORTHCOM
 - Air Force Space Command (AFSPC)
 - Army Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC)
 - 21st Space Wing
 - 302nd Airlift Wing (C-130's)
 - 5,000 military personnel, 4,000 civilian employees, 1,500 contractors, and annual economic impact of \$1.5B.
3. **Schriever Air Force Base** key units/missions:
 - 50th Space Wing
 - 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Colorado National Guard)
 - Missile Defense Integration and Operations Center (MDIOC)

¹ According to the US Census Bureau, the 18-years-and-older population for CO-05 is 16.9% veterans, which is **the highest concentration of veterans of any Congressional District in the country** (FL-01 is 16.6%, VA-02 is 16.5%, VA-03 is 15.1%, and WA-06 is 14.9%). This is compared to a national average of 7.4% veterans.

In addition, **73% (79K) of the veterans in CO-05 are under 65**. It is **one of five Districts having 70% or higher** young veterans (others are Alaska-at-large, NC-04, TX-31, VA-02, and VA-03). Nationwide, 50.0% of veterans are under 65.

Sources: [VA Dept., 2016 "Profile of Veterans", released Feb 14, 2018](#).

[US Census Bureau, S2101 "VETERAN STATUS", 2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate](#)

- National Space Defense Center (NSDC, formerly the JICSpOC)
 - Joint Functional Component Command - Integrated Missile Defense (JFCC-IMD)
 - 2,500 military personnel, 950 civilian employees, 4,200 contractors, and annual economic impact of \$1.2B.
4. The **U.S. Air Force Academy** (USAFA) graduates 900-1000 cadets each year. USAFA graduates comprise 23% of the Air Force officer corps, and 46% of the general officers in the Air Force.
 - Total employment (cadets, active duty military and civilian): 10,000
 - Annual economic impact: \$1B
 5. **Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station** (CMAFS) houses NORAD/NORTHCOM's Alternate Command Center and other national missions. While CMAFS is at full capacity, only 30% of the floor space is used by NORAD/NORTHCOM. On a daily basis, the mountain has about 350 military and DOD civilian personnel, roughly 200 contractors and 160 mission partner employees.

KEY SENIOR LEADERS

- **General Lori Robinson** is the **NORAD/NORTHCOM Commander**. She took command on May 13, 2016, becoming the first female Combatant Commander.
- **General John "Jay" Raymond** has been the **Air Force Space Command (AFSPC) Commander** since October 2016.
- **Lt Gen Jay B. Silveria** has been the **Superintendent** of the **U.S. Air Force Academy** since August 2017.
- **Maj. Gen. Randy A. George** is the **Commanding General, 4th Infantry Division** at Fort Carson. He assumed command on August 24, 2017.
- **BG Tim Lawson** serves as the **Deputy Commanding General for Operations, Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command (SMDC/ARSTRAT)**.

KEY UNITS/MISSIONS: ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND

4th Infantry Division (Located at Ft. Carson)

The 4th Infantry Division (4ID) is composed of three Brigade Combat Teams (BCTs): a Striker BCT, an infantry BCT, and a heavy BCT. 4ID also has the newest Combat Aviation Brigade in the Army, which became operational in 2014.

4ID currently has troops deployed in Afghanistan.

10th Special Forces Group (Located at Ft. Carson)

10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) is responsible for operations within European Command, but also operates in Africa and the Middle East. The 10th Group has their headquarters, support units, and two battalions located at Ft. Carson, and has one battalion forward-stationed in Stuttgart, Germany.

NORAD/NORTHCOM (Located at Peterson AFB)

North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) is a United States and Canada bi-national organization charged with the missions of aerospace warning and aerospace control for North America. Aerospace warning includes the detection, validation, and warning of attack against North America whether by aircraft, missiles, or space vehicles, through mutual support arrangements with other commands.

Aerospace control includes ensuring air sovereignty and air defense of the airspace of Canada and the United States. The renewal of the NORAD Agreement in May 2006 added a maritime warning mission, which entails a shared awareness and understanding of the activities conducted in U.S. and Canadian maritime approaches, maritime areas and internal waterways.

U.S. Northern Command (USNORTHCOM) partners to conduct homeland defense, civil support and security cooperation (DSCA) to defend and secure the United States and its interests.

USNORTHCOM's Area of Responsibility (AOR) includes air, land and sea approaches and encompasses the continental United States, Alaska, Canada, Mexico and the surrounding water out to approximately 500 nautical miles. It also includes the Gulf of Mexico, the Straits of Florida, portions of the Caribbean region to include The Bahamas, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The commander of USNORTHCOM is responsible for theater security cooperation with Canada, Mexico, and the Bahamas.

Air Force Space Command (Located at Peterson AFB)

Air Force Space Command (AFSPC) provides resilient and affordable space and cyberspace capabilities for the Joint Force and the Nation. AFSPC has more than 40,000 professionals assigned to 134 locations worldwide.

AFSPC has two numbered air forces (14th and 24th) and a number of components.

- 14th Air Force (located at Vandenberg AFB, CA) provides space capabilities for the joint fight through the operational missions of spacelift; position, navigation and timing; satellite communications; missile warning and space control.
- 24th Air Force (located at JB San Antonio, TX) provides combatant commanders with trained and ready cyber forces which plan and conduct cyberspace operations, extending, operating, maintaining, and defending its assigned portions of the Department of Defense Network to provide capabilities in, through and from cyberspace.
- Space and Missile Systems Center (SMC) (located at Los Angeles AFB, CA) designs and acquires all Air Force and most Department of Defense space systems.

21st Space Wing (Located at Peterson AFB)

- The Air Force's most geographically-dispersed wing, with units in FL, MA, CA, ND, NM, HI, AK, Diego Garcia, the UK, and Greenland.

- The Air Force's only organization providing missile warning and space control to unified commanders and combat forces worldwide.¹
- Wing Commander: [Col. Todd Moore](#); Vice Wing Commander: [Col. Eric Dorminey](#)

50th Space Wing (Located at Schriever AFB)

- Responsible for the operation and support of more than 150 DoD satellites.
 - Global Positioning System (GPS), Defense Satellite Communications System (DSCS), Wideband Global SATCOM (WGS), Milstar, Defense Meteorological Satellite Program (DMSP), Space Based Space Surveillance (SBSS), Operationally Responsive Space-1 (ORS-1), Advanced Extremely High Frequency (AEHF) and the worldwide Air Force Satellite Control Network (AFSCN).
- Satellite operation centers at Schriever AFB, remote tracking stations and other command and control facilities around the world (geo-separated squadrons in CA, NH, HI, Guam, Diego Garcia, Greenland, & UK).²
- Wing Commander: [Col. Jennifer L. Grant](#); Vice Wing Commander: [Col. Jacob Middleton](#)

100th Missile Defense Brigade (Located at Schriever AFB)

The 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense) is a multi-component brigade made up of Active-Component Army and Army National Guard Soldiers in Colorado, California and Alaska, tasked with the mission of defending the homeland from ballistic missile attacks.

Missile Defenders operating fire control centers at Fort Greely, Alaska and Schriever Air Base, Colorado, monitor the skies 24 hours a day, seven days a week for incoming ballistic missiles **Missile**

Defense Integration & Operations Center (Located at Schriever AFB)

The Missile Defense Agency's (MDA's) Integration & Operations Center (MDIOC) supports research and development, system-level tests and evaluation, as well as operational and training support to U.S. combatant commands.

National Space Defense Center (NSDC) (Located at Schriever AFB)

Established in September 2015 (originally named Joint Interagency Combined Space Operations Center, or JICSpOC), the mission of the NSDC, in conjunction with U.S. Strategic Command, Air Force Space Command, and the intelligence community, is to create unity of effort and facilitate information sharing across the national security space enterprise.

The NSDC improves processes and procedures, ensuring data fusion among DoD, intelligence community, interagency, allied and commercial space entities. The center also has the capability to develop, test, validate and integrate new space system tactics, techniques and procedures in support of both DoD and Intelligence Community space operations.

The increasing threats to space capabilities necessitates better operational integration of these two space communities, as well as civil, commercial, allied and international partners. The NSDC experimentation and test effort will boost the ability to detect, characterize, and attribute irresponsible or threatening space activity in a timely manner.

Joint Functional Component Command-Integrated Missile Defense (Located at Schriever AFB)

The Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense (JFCC IMD) supports STRATCOM missions for synchronizing operational-level planning and global missile defense operations support. JFCC IMD is responsible for supporting the development of global effects for the Department of Defense and, when directed, provides alternate missile defense execution support.

¹ **PETERSON (21st Space Wing) Colorado Springs Space Squadrons:**

- **4th Space Control Squadron (4 SPCS)**
 - Mission: Provide space control effects to STRATCOM and theater COCOMs.
- **16th Space Control Squadron (16 SPCS)**
 - Mission: Only defensive space control unit in the Air Force. Employs the Ultra-High Frequency Standardized Process for Interference Recognition and Interference Targeting (UHF SPIRIT), Rapid Attack, Identification, Detection, and Reporting System (RAIDRS) - Deployable Ground Segment Zero (RDGS-0) and Bounty Hunter weapon systems.

² **SCHRIEVER (21st Space Wing) Colorado Springs Space Squadrons:**

- **1st Space Operations Squadron (1 SOPS)**
 - Missions: Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance and Space Situational Awareness.
 - Satellites flown:
 - Operationally Responsive Space (ORS)
 - Space Based Space Surveillance (SBSS)
 - Advanced Technology Risk Reduction (ATRR)
 - Geosynchronous SSA Program (GSSAP)
- **2nd Space Operations Squadron (2 SOPS)**
 - Mission: Command and control of the GPS satellite constellation.
- **3rd Space Experimentation Squadron (3 SES)**
 - Mission: the Air Force's only organization for space-based demonstrations and experiments.
 - Satellites/vehicles flown:
 - X-37B Orbital Test Vehicle
 - EAGLE/Mycroft space vehicles
- **2nd Space Operations Squadron (2 SOPS)**
 - Mission: Reliable space-borne communications to national authorities, U.S. and Allied forces.
 - Satellites flown:
 - Defense Satellite Communications System Phase III (DSCS III)
 - Wideband Global Satellite Communications (WGS)
- **4th Space Operations Squadron (4 SOPS)**
 - Mission: Provide warfighters global, secure, survivable, strategic and tactical communication during peacetime and throughout the full spectrum of conflict.
 - Satellites flown:
 - MILSTAR/Advanced Extremely High Frequency (AEHF)
- **21st and 22nd Space Operations Squadrons (21 SOPS and 22 SOPS)**
 - Mission: Monitor, maintain, update, and operate the \$6.2B Air Force Satellite Control Network (AFSCN).
- **50th Space Communications Squadron (50 SCS)**
 - Mission: Operate and maintain communications-computer systems, establishing real-time global connectivity to all 50th Space Wing assets.
- **527th Space Aggressor Squadron (527 SAS)**
 - Mission: Prepare USAF, joint and allied forces for combat through realistic threat replication, training and feedback through specialized and certified space-capable aggressors. Operate adversary space systems, develop new tactics, techniques and procedures to counter threats, and improve the U.S. military space posture.